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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/20/2007

SPONSOR SCONC LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_  
 Public Peace, Health, Safety and Welfare

SHORT TITLE School District Redistricting SB 1217/SCONCS

ANALYST Aguilar

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$80.0	Non-Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY07	FY08	FY09	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non- Rec	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>			Indeterminate	Indeterminate	Non- Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

The Senate Conservation Committee substitute for Senate Bill 1217 appropriates \$80 thousand from the general fund to the Public Education Department for the purpose of assisting in the redistricting of school districts that exceed thirty-five thousand students.

The committee substitute provides for school districts with enrollment greater than 35,000 students to develop a plan to divide the district into smaller school districts, provides for a two year time frame for completing the plan, provides for the appointment of a task force to complete the plan and provides for a redistricting election.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$80 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2010 shall revert to the general fund.

SB1217/SCONCS provides an appropriation to PED to assist in the redistricting efforts detailed in the bill. The bill provides for the payment of per diem and travel to certain task force members, allows the department to contract with for services with recognized experts, provides for the task force to publish regular reports and provides for the conduct of an election. Although the total cost of these efforts is unclear at this time it appears that the appropriations will be significantly less than what will be required to complete the duties required in the bill.

### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

Using current year 40<sup>th</sup> day enrollment figures, the only district this will affect is the Albuquerque Public Schools.

SB1217/SCONCS provides for the department to notify a school district with a student population of greater than 35,000 when the school district is required to prepare a redistricting plan.

The committee substitute also provides for PED to promulgate rules setting forth the procedures for redistricting a school district under the conditions noted above.

SB1217/SCONCS provides for the appointment of a task force to assist the school district with the redistricting plan and in general terms specify the make-up of the taskforce.

The taskforce is charged with considering and reporting on:

- The boundaries of the new school district;
- Population demographics, district growth patterns, ethnicity, economic levels, family income and student and parent educational achievement and attainment levels;
- The division of assets and liabilities;
- The bonded indebtedness and voter-approved mill levies;
- The ability of the new school districts to raise operational and capital funds;
- The effects of redistricting on transportation costs; and,
- Other considerations that affect redistricting or the new school districts.

### **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

The committee substitute specifies that the school district hold a special school district election on the first Tuesday of February 2009 on the question of dividing the school district into smaller districts. This appears to be problematic as the 2009 date is less than two years away and the earliest this legislation, in its present form, could go into effect would be June 17, 2007. The bill provides for a two year time frame to complete the redistricting plan.

The committee substitute also provides for new board members to be elected to four year terms. Without providing for staggered terms, the entire board would come up for reelection at one time

PA/nt